GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6904
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2003
CONSUMER COOPERATIVES
KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Conference on NCCF took place recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and issues discussed therein;

(c) whether Consumer cooperatives in the country are facing an inherent weakness of self-reliance; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen the consumer cooperatives in the country ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) & (b): The NCCF of India Ltd. had convened a National Conference on Consumer Cooperatives to discuss the various problems facing the four-tier consumer cooperative structure in the country and to suggest ways and means for strengthening the consumer cooperatives in the present scenario of competitiveness in the liberalized economy. The Conference was held at New Delhi in February 2003 and has recommended a number of steps to be taken for strengthening the consumer cooperatives. The recommendations cover a wide range of subjects which need further discussions amongst the Government Departments and the State Governments. It also proposes coordination of business activities amongst the cooperatives of this country and the international cooperative movement.

(c) & (d): These recommendations are required to be discussed and considered amongst the concerned organizations/Departments/State Governments before specific steps could be drawn up for strengthening the consumer cooperatives to face the challenges of the changed economic and trade scenario in the country.